GRADS/YA INFORMATION BOOKLET

YOUNG MINDS.

BOLD MOVES.

BIG FUTURES.

OWN YOUR FUTURE

A NEW COUNTRY FOR
A NEW GENERATION

ALBERTA PROSPERITY PROJECT

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Thank you for taking a courageous step for the future of Alberta

The future of Alberta is YOUR future. It's in your hands to build from the ground up. The world's newest nation.

How is something so grand accomplished? By Albertans just like you inviting those they care about to a respectful discussion.

Many are afraid of change and of what it would look like if Albertans took more control over our own future. A lot of this hesitation is based on our natural fear of something new, but also on vague warnings from those who oppose setting Alberta free.

While Ottawa has taxpayer funded media as their mouthpiece, the people of Alberta have something stronger: **relationship** and **community**.

Food is always good - get some treats and invite people over for a chat.

They may not all end up agreeing with you, but you will have planted powerful seeds and facts. We recommend an informal, friendly environment with treats provided. Present the facts but don't take it personally if it doesn't bear fruit just yet.

The following guide is intended to help make that discussion easier with topics laid out by subject. Print the pages following this one as handouts to help keep the discussion on track and for participants to take home after. If people decline an invitation to an informational get together, see if they would be willing to read this handout at home and meet you one-on-one after to discuss.

Alberta wasn't built in a day.

"It will be you who will determine whether or not you want to see more of your lives directed and controlled by Ottawa."

— **PETER LOUGHEED**
10TH PREMIER OF ALBERTA

"Albertans built this province with their own hands.
It's time we had the right to decide our own future."

— **MITCH SYLVESTRE**
CEO ALBERTA PROSPERITY PROJECT

Alberta Prosperity Project

Dear Alberta Citizen:

First off, thank you for being here. I appreciate that you made the decision to listen and consider the reasons behind the growing sovereignty movement in Alberta. Today, we are facing a significant crossroads—a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to send a message to Ottawa about our province's future, lawfully and democratically.

But in order for the democratic process to be just, we must have an informed citizenry. That is why I chose to lead the Alberta Prosperity Project: to educate Albertans about the reality of our province's relationship to confederation and the choices we have.

Like many of you, I had never imagined I would be involved in provincial politics—I was a local business owner, father, and grandfather, proud of this country and this province. But after learning about the direction that Ottawa is taking us and the very real stakes involved, I felt there is no choice but to act out of concern for the future of my family, fellow Albertans, and our province.

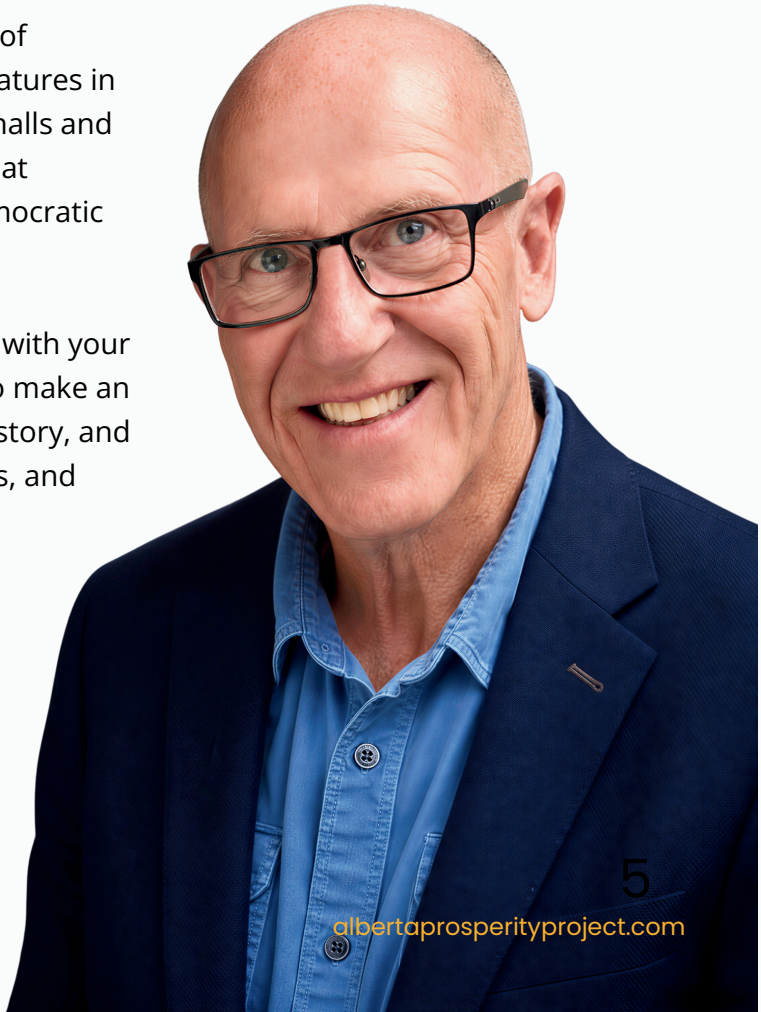
This is a grassroots movement—built by thousands of volunteers spending countless hours collecting signatures in the cold of winter, organizing and speaking at townhalls and gatherings, and creating educational materials so that Albertans can shape their own future through a democratic referendum.

I invite you to take what you learn here and share it with your friends and family so they too can be empowered to make an informed choice. This is a moment that will make history, and I believe we can secure a stronger, more prosperous, and freer Alberta for the next generation.

Let's Go!

Sincerely,

Mitch Sylvestre
CEO, Alberta Prosperity Project



WHAT'S EVERYONE GETTING SO WORKED UP ABOUT

Thank you for taking a courageous step for the future of Alberta

The future of Alberta is YOUR future. It's in your hands to build from the ground up. The world's newest nation.

So why is there a growing movement of almost half of Albertans who want to change the status quo?

Isn't that risky? Unpatriotic? Unfeasible, even?

The following information is intended to help explain why so many are considering the future in a new light. Some of the things you read may surprise you—please feel free to research them further.

A word of caution: the mainstream media in Canada are funded by taxpayer dollars (CBC, for example, receives approximately $1.4 billion annually, with Mark Carney pledging an additional $150 million annually). If Albertan taxpayers stop funding them, they stand to lose a great deal of money. Please bear this in mind as you hear their dire predictions. They will paint those seeking change in a poor light. But you know your friends. Likely the person who shared this with you is a friend trying to reach out. They have nothing to gain by sharing this with you and may in fact be risking a rebuff. Your best research will be done by looking at numbers rather than editorial pieces by paid pundits.

To research the following information more thoroughly, please read *The Value of Freedom* document available at albertaprosperityproject.com.

LEGITIMACY & POLITICAL FOUNDATIONS

Q IS ALBERTA INDEPENDENCE EVEN LEGAL OR POSSIBLE?

Yes, Alberta independence is absolutely legal and possible!
The Supreme Court of Canada has ruled that a province has the democratic right to pursue independence through a referendum vote.
The Alberta independence movement is completely legal and follows established constitutional and democratic processes.

Q IS ALBERTA INDEPENDENCE A RIGHT-WING MOVEMENT?

No, Alberta independence is not about being right wing or left wing. Sovereignty for Alberta is not a left or right issue - it is about giving Alberta control over its own policies, laws, and decisions, and creating a better future for Albertans.

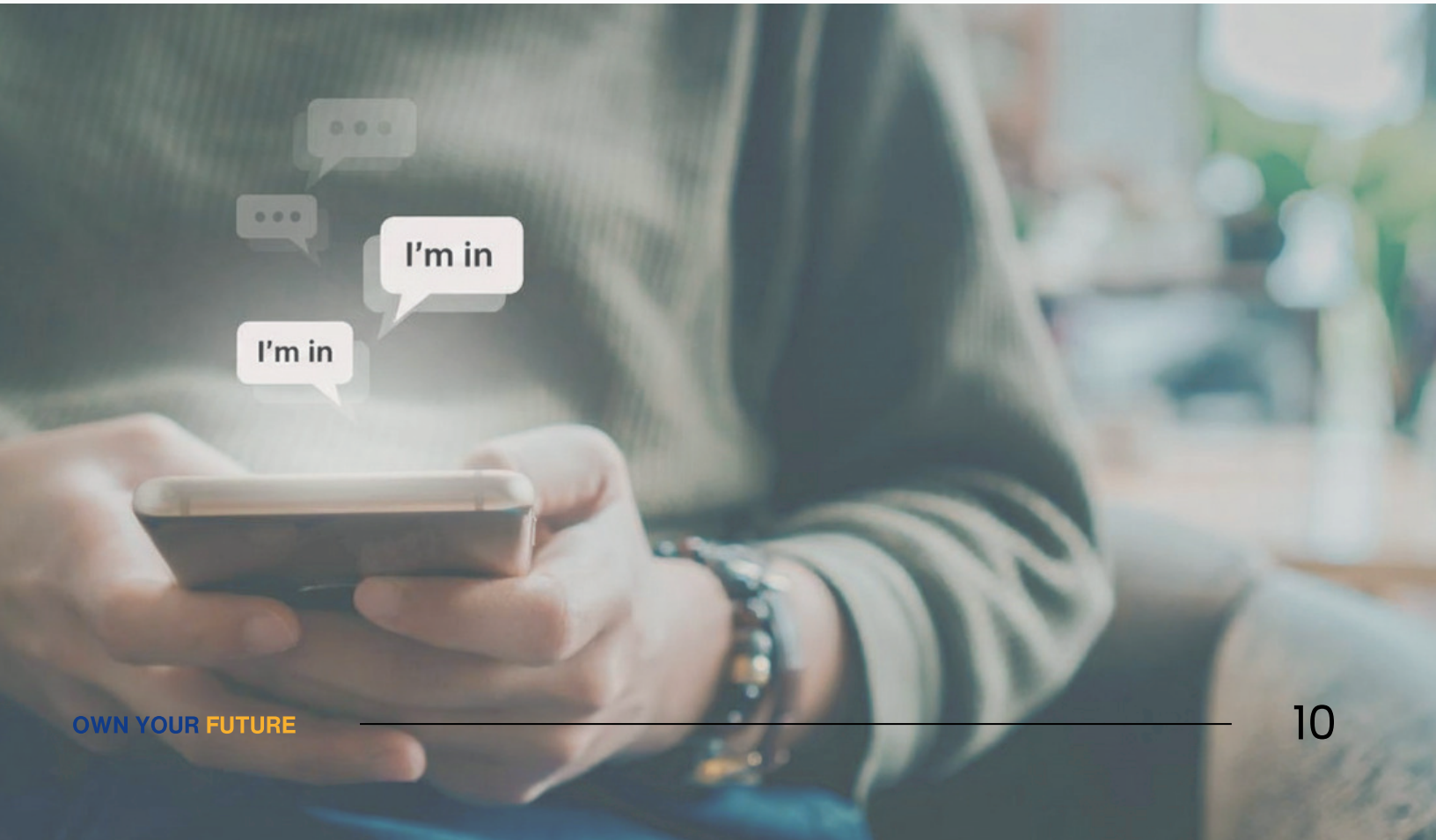
This movement is also not affiliated with any political party or current government. It is a movement towards a better future - led by Albertans, for Albertans.

WHY DO SOME YOUNG PEOPLE SUPPORT ALBERTA INDEPENDENCE?

Young people are supporting independence for the same reasons as anyone else: they want a better future for Albertans. An Alberta government that is free from federal control is better able to make decisions and policies that reflect the realities of life in Alberta and the values and priorities of the people who live and work here. Spending can go towards services that improve quality of life, including healthcare, education, social services, and infrastructure.

Reducing personal taxes and pension contributions and increasing benefits can make life more affordable for individuals and families. Policing decisions can help improve public safety in both rural and urban areas, protecting Albertans instead of criminals. An independent Alberta is also committed to sustainability and protecting the environment, but not through constraining federal policies that hurt the economy with no demonstrated environmental benefits.

A fulsome environmental strategy that focuses on protecting natural landscapes, animals, and plant life, instead of a singular fixation on carbon, could result in a durable, sustainable, and resilient ecology of an independent Alberta. In short, there are many reasons to support Alberta independence, but what it really comes down to is wanting what is best for all Albertans, now and in the future.



INDIGENOUS RELATIONS & SELF-DETERMINATION

Q WHAT ABOUT INDIGENOUS PEOPLES? DOES ALBERTA INDEPENDENCE CARE ABOUT THEIR RIGHTS?

Absolutely - Alberta independence in no way intends to diminish treaty rights.
An independent Alberta wants a better relationship with Indigenous peoples.
True self-determination for Indigenous communities would be at the centre of this new relationship.

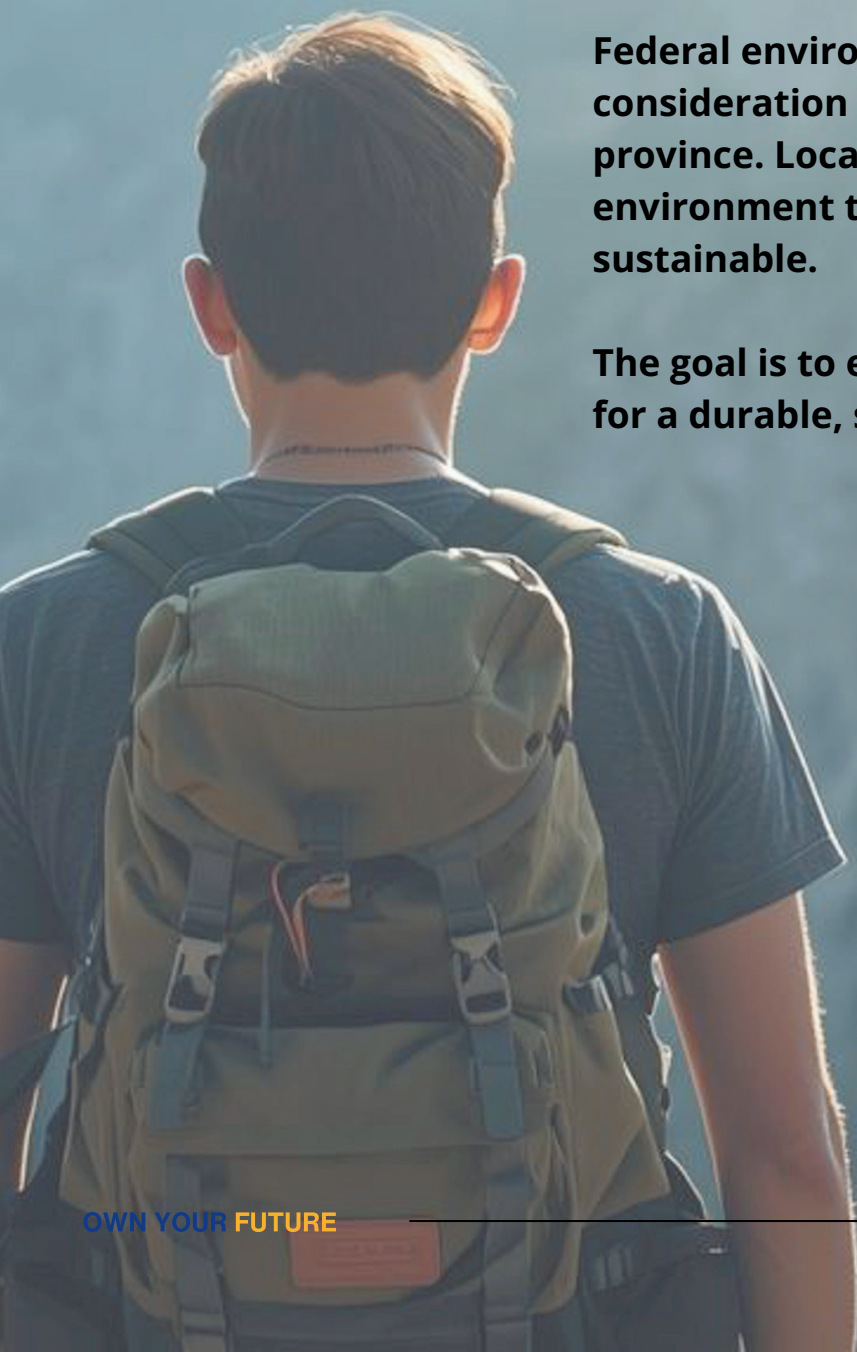
Indigenous peoples have been let down by federal policies time and time again. Decisions have ensured that Indigenous peoples remain dependent on the federal government.

In contrast, an independent Alberta could see Indigenous peoples demonstrating economic self-sufficiency, social and health independence, education and cultural autonomy, and environmental leadership.
Engagement with all 48 First Nations in Alberta, as well as the 8 Metis Settlements and urban Indigenous peoples, is critical to making this a reality in an independent Alberta.

ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY

Q WOULD ALBERTA CARE ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT?

Yes, definitely. Giving Alberta control over its own environment policies means that Aberta's environmental strategy could be tailored to the local environment and priorities.



Federal environmental policies do not take into consideration the distinct landscapes of each province. Local policies can harness the local environment to be more effective and more sustainable.

The goal is to enhance biodiversity and soil fertility, for a durable, sustainable, and resilient ecology.

Alberta has many natural landscapes that are excellent at storing carbon: grasslands, peatlands and swamps, foothills vegetation, and mountain forests. Using these landscapes creates a logical, natural carbon strategy.

HEALTHCARE & SOCIAL SUPPORTS

Q WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO HEALTHCARE IF ALBERTA BECAME INDEPENDENT FROM CANADA?

Healthcare is already managed within Alberta, with hospitals, doctors, nurses, and other services falling under provincial jurisdiction.
When estimating costs for an independent Alberta, analyses already factor in the maintenance of all current provincial spending, which includes healthcare.

A priority would also be to invest in public services, including healthcare, to decrease wait times and improve quality of life for Albertans.

Providing free pharmacare and dental coverage for 1.5 million children, low-income households, and retirees has already been proposed as a priority policy.

Q WOULD ALBERTA HAVE ENOUGH MONEY TO SUPPORT SOCIAL SERVICES?

Yes, an independent Alberta would be able to cover the costs of social services. The majority of social services are already under provincial jurisdiction, meaning that Alberta administers and covers the costs of these programs.

Cost estimates for an independent Alberta already account for current provincial spending, which includes social services.

With the additional funds that an independent Alberta would have as a result of retaining the $44-47 billion that is currently lost to federal taxes, and estimated revenue increases as a result of Alberta's growth, investing more money into public services has been identified as a priority.

Q WHAT IF I WANT TO START A FAMILY IN THE FUTURE? WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO MATERNITY BENEFITS AND PARENTAL LEAVE?

Maternity and parental leave are currently paid by the federal government out of Employment Insurance (or EI).
Cost estimates for an independent Alberta account for the costs to set up and take over current federal programs, including EI. Estimated EI costs are $2-3 billion annually, with an additional one-time set-up cost of $0.1-0.2 billion.

An additional $0.5 billion has already been factored into cost calculations to account for potential benefit increases.

An independent Alberta is prepared to cover the costs to make sure new parents receive equal or better benefits than they currently do.

ECONOMY,

JOBS & PROSPERITY

Q WHAT HAPPENS TO UNIVERSITIES?

Education systems, including K-12 schools and colleges and universities, are already under provincial jurisdiction. This means that Alberta already controls its own education systems without involvement from the federal government.

When estimating costs for an independent Alberta, analyses already factor in the maintenance of all current provincial spending, which includes education, healthcare, infrastructure, and social services. Investing the surplus into public services, including education, is a priority.

One possible policy could see post-secondary tuition fees reduced to 5% of current levels. This would help increase access to post-secondary education and decrease student debt to ensure young Albertans are in a good place financially when they graduate.

Q WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO JOBS?

There are opportunities for significant job creation in an independent Alberta.
This is great news for all Albertans, especially young adults and new graduates, as youth (age 15-24) unemployment rates in Canada have been rising.
Alberta's economy would be strengthened by retaining the full amount of $68-75 billion that is currently sent to Ottawa as federal tax.

Having control over trade has the potential for Alberta's oil and gas exports to reach new international markets, which could lead to the expansion of industry and creation of jobs.
Economic growth resulting from direct revenue and savings from deregulation could lead to the creation of hundreds of thousands of new jobs by 2045.

Alberta would also take over management and spending for current federal services, like border control and customs. This would create new jobs in Alberta to administer these services.

A stronger economy also provides the opportunity to invest in public services, including healthcare, education, infrastructure, and social services. The creation of new jobs as a result of expanding public services is likely.
There are also several strategies outlined to increase jobs for Indigenous peoples, in industries such as education, land and forest management, and healthcare.

Q WOULD TAXES BE LOWER IF ALBERTA WAS INDEPENDENT?

Alberta would have a surplus if it could retain the full $68-75 billion that is sent to Ottawa annually in federal taxes. This surplus could mean considerable tax reductions for Albertans, which is considered a priority by many. One proposed policy could see the elimination of Federal GST and Personal Income Tax entirely. This would reduce taxes by 29% per person, on average. Other proposals could see further reductions of up to 46% per person. Taxation decisions would be made during negotiation and transition, but lowering taxes for Albertans is a priority for an independent Alberta.

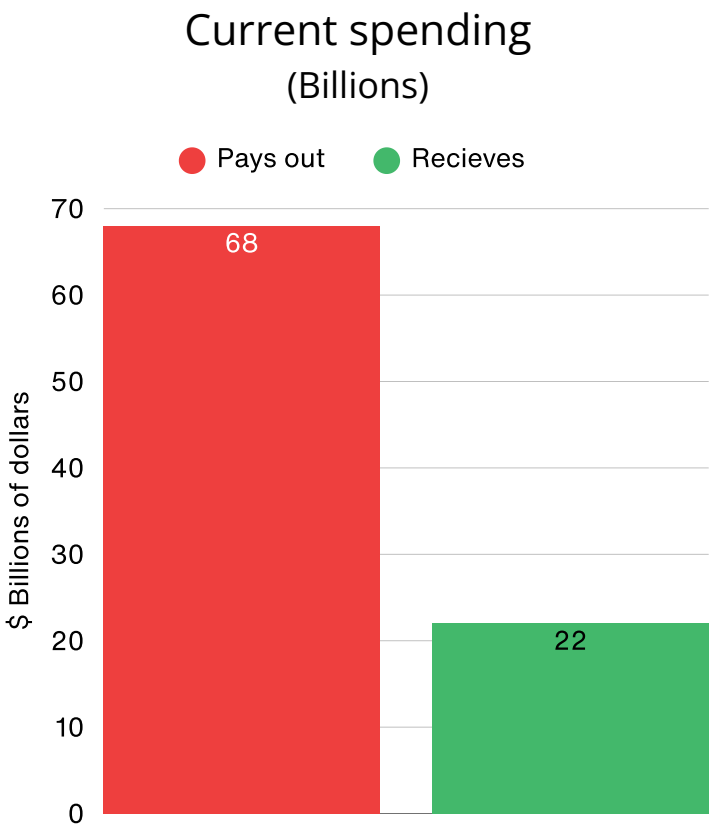
Q WILL ALBERTA INDEPENDENCE MAKE LIFE MORE AFFORDABLE?

It is very possible that life could be more affordable in an independent Alberta. Alberta currently pays $68-75 billion annually in federal taxes and only receives $22-26 billion back in federal transfers. This means Alberta loses $44-47 billion annually to federal revenue. Retaining the full amount would allow Alberta to not only cover current provincial spending and take over federal programs, but the surplus would allow for investment into areas like social services, education, healthcare, and infrastructure. Another possibility is tax reductions for Albertans, with the potential to remove Personal Income Tax entirely.

STRATEGY

BUILDING THE BLUEPRINT

Great ideas need a plan.
Strategy turns vision into action.



STRATEGY IN ACTION

- Personal taxes could be reduced by a considerable amount (aprox. **29-46%**)
- Reducing post-secondary education fees to **25%** of current fees
- Lowering pension contribution rates
- Providing free Pharmacare and dental coverage for low-income families, children under 18, and retirees.

In short, yes, Alberta independence has the potential to make life much more affordable for Albertans.

PUBLIC SAFETY, BORDERS & NATIONAL DEFENCE

Q WOULD AN INDEPENDENT ALBERTA HAVE ITS OWN MILITARY OR RELY ON OTHERS FOR DEFENSE?

An independent Alberta would establish the Alberta Military for national defense. Cost estimations for Alberta independence already account for the cost of Alberta taking over the management and cost of all services that are currently provided by the federal government. This includes national defense, which has an annual cost of $3-5 billion and additional start-up costs (for equipment, bases, and cybersecurity) estimated at $1-2.5 billion. Alberta would also provide pension support, education, and transition support for members of the Canadian Military who choose to transfer to the Alberta Military. Alberta would not need to rely on other nations for defense.

Q WOULD ALBERTA BECOME LESS SAFE?

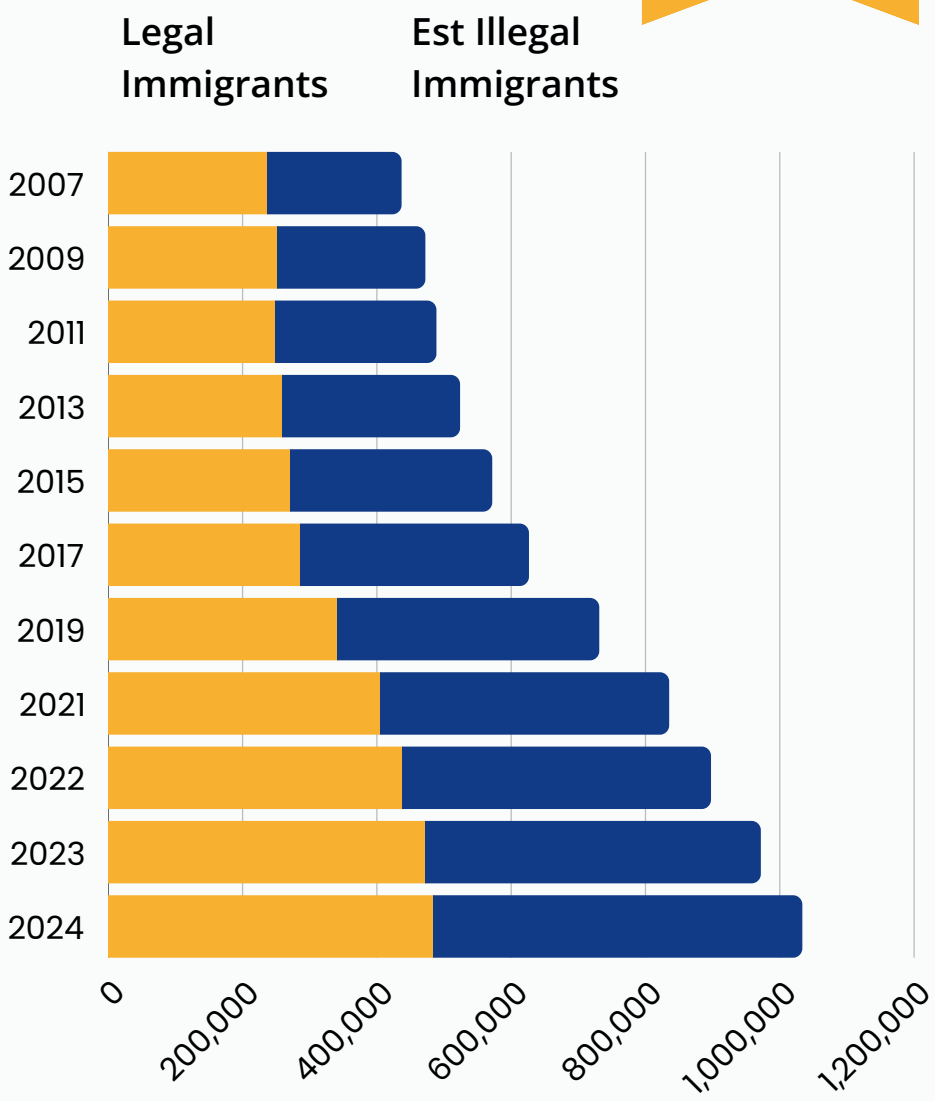
An independent Alberta has the potential to become safer than Alberta is currently. Having more control over both policing and border control would help ensure that policies are in the interest of enhancing public safety. This includes an ability to focus on crime, drug abuse (like fentanyl) and ensuring our borders are properly controlled. An independent Alberta would adopt policies focused on crime reduction and protecting Albertans - not protecting criminals.

Regarding border control, an independent Alberta would have control over immigration and deportation. Stricter policies could be implemented to prevent approvals and require deportations for non-citizen applicants who have criminal convictions and are sentenced to jail time. Appeals and humanitarian exceptions are possible, but on a case-by-case basis. Consultation will be sought to ensure policies align with public interest.

In addition, rather than contracting the RCMP, an independent Alberta could develop its own Alberta police force. While estimated costs for an Alberta police force are higher than the current costs for contracting the RCMP, the non-financial benefits are clear: enhancement of both rural and urban policing through a police force which is directly accountable to Alberta and its people - instead of the RCMP (an organization which has been involved in many serious controversies over the years), who are accountable to Ottawa.

Rapid Pace of Immigration and Cultural Change

Many Alberta residents, including immigrants, have expressed concerns over the federal immigration policy's ever-increasing rate as it changes the cultural fabric of communities faster than integration can accommodate.



FINAL THOUGHTS

Citizenship & Travel

Anyone born in Canada will always be a Canadian citizen. 3 million Canadians currently don't live in Canada, and over 3 million have dual citizenship, including 48 MPs.

G20 Countries

IN RECESSION
Canada

NOT IN RECESSION

USA
Australia
Brazil
Argentina
China
France
Germany
India
Indonesia
Italy
Japan
Mexico
Russia
Saudi Arabia
South Africa
South Korea
Turkey
UK

Government Overreach and Violation of Rights and Freedoms

There are growing concerns about the federal government granting itself too much power in recent years.

Bill C-8:
This bill gives the federal government more control over telecommunications access like internet and cell service. Government could order companies to block someone's access to the internet without going through a court, and without public transparency. While the stated goal is to improve cybersecurity, there are concerns that this would lead to government overreach, less transparency, and violations of personal freedoms.

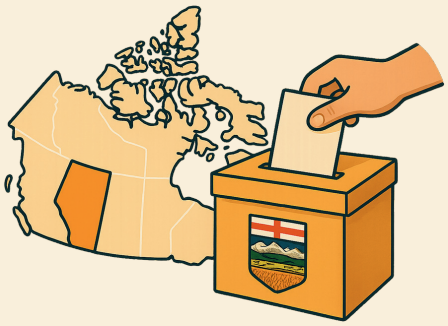
Bill C-9:
This bill focuses on stopping hate speech and hate-based actions. That's not a bad thing! The controversy is around how broadly terms like "hate" and "intimidation" are defined. The government might not apply these definitions consistently or fairly, potentially targeting certain groups. Freedom of speech and expression may be stifled.

Bill C-22:
This bill is meant to help police fight crime and improve cybersecurity by expanding digital surveillance powers. However, the bill gives too much access to people's online information, even if they are not suspected of a crime. Concerns have been raised about data collection and protections from unreasonable search. Major tech companies like Apple, Google, and Meta have voiced concerns about the privacy violations of this bill.

Bill C-34:
This bill would restrict social media access for anyone under 16 and give the government the power to decide what content is considered "harmful", for all users. Once again, the definitions are broad and could lead to government censorship, which is in direct conflict with the principles of democracy. It is also concerning that young people could lose access to online communities, support networks, and spaces where they share ideas, as well as making digital ID necessary for all ages, leading to potential "social credit" like restrictions.

Myth: "Alberta can't leave Canada—it's not legal."

FACT:
Alberta has the legal right to leave. The law is already in place!



In 1998, the Supreme Court ruled that any province has the right to pursue independence if there is a clear majority vote (that's from the landmark Reference Secession of Quebec case).

In response, **Parliament passed the Clarity Act in 2000**, confirming the same thing: if a majority of Albertans vote to leave, the federal government must negotiate our exit.

No new laws are needed. We already have the constitutional path laid out.

Myth: "Only the radical fringe want independence."

FACT: Polls regularly show 38%-45% support—we just have to choose it.

Myth: "Alberta is landlocked so it can't trade."

FACT:
Alberta already exports billions. Having more control won't block trade—it strengthens our leverage to negotiate better access with a pipeline-hostile Canadian government.

Alberta can more freely negotiate trade agreements with the US, and more. Our oil, food, and minerals give us massive leverage. We could also enjoy a mutually tariff-free relationship with the US.

Thank you for reading and considering the different options the future holds.

To find out more, please visit:
albertaprosperityproject.com